

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY	Rumania	REPORT	<input type="text"/>	25X1
SUBJECT	The Rumanian Chemical Works Rubber Factory in Bucharest and other Rubber Factories	DATE DISTR.	8 May 1953	
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1. The Rumanian Chemical Works Rubber Factory (Uzinele Chimice Romane Fabrica de Cauciucuri) in Bucharest belonged formerly to the Banca Nationala. In 1948 it was nationalized and united with four small factories (Standard, Areca, Arda, and Nicola) whose machinery was dismantled and taken to the main factory. The works were then placed under the control of the Rubber Center of the Ministry of Light Industry. The factory is located at 72 Soseaua Pandurilor near the Vulcan Factory and opposite the Military Academy (Școala de Razboiu). Frontage of the factory is approximately 800 meters. To its rear is Calea 13 September, where there is also a railroad siding.
2. The factory manufactures all kinds of rubber products, tires and inner tubes for vehicles excepted, from both natural and synthetic rubber. Monthly production represents a value of 50,000,000 lei. The factory has six departments whose combined daily production is approximately one thousand kgs. of rubber. One department, employing 150 workers, produces washers, discs, stoppers, knobs, rubbers soles, sanitary and medical articles. A second department, employing from 60 to 80 workers produces galoshes, rubber boots, and sport shoes. A third department produces rubber tubes for medical use (from 10 to 150 mm in diameter) and rubber-coated tubes for technical use which incorporated layers of cotton fabric. These tubes have a resistance up to 150 atmospheres. A fourth department produces rubber mats and rubber-coated transmission belts. A fifth department produces rubberized cloth (capacity of one thousand sq. meters per day) for military purposes. A sixth department produces items made of vulcanite.
3. The technical manager of the factory is an engineer named Israel Geller, who is the best known and probably the only rubber expert in Rumania.
 The factory employs approximately 900 workers, 30 per cent of whom were women. The average age of the workers is about 45. Work is carried out in two shifts in all departments except the shoe department where work is done in three shifts.

25X1

676

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25 YEAR
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25X1

- 2 -

4. The factory uses these materials whose source and status are as follows:

- a. Crude rubber. In 1949 there was a stock of [] crude rubber which had been requisitioned from private stores. In 1950 [] rubber was sent by the USSR; this rubber was believed to have been war surplus or to have been imported []. In 1951 production was hampered by a shortage of crude rubber, the factory having at its disposition only 200 tons. 25X1
- b. Synthetic rubber. In 1949-1950 both Buna S and Buna N were imported from Eastern Germany through Soviet intermediaries. In 1951 Soviet synthetic rubber was imported. In 1951 the factory had at its disposition only 500 tons. 25X1
- c. Chemicals. Lampblack is produced in Medias, but because of supply contracts with the USSR, the lampblack factory can deliver almost nothing for the domestic market. A shortage of sulphur in 1950 threatened to paralyze the entire rubber industry. In 1951 from 100 to 200 tons of sulphur arrived []. "Ultra-rapid Vulcanite" is produced and supplied only by the I.G. (sic) factory. A factory in Fagaras attempted to use methane gas for this production of vulcanite, but the quality was unsatisfactory, with the result that the quality of rubber was unsatisfactory. Zinc oxide and dyestuffs were not available in 1951. 25X1

5. The following ministries and industrial enterprises are supplied by the factory:

- a. The Defense Ministry receives rubber parts for gas masks which are assembled in the military gas mask factory at Otor, Soseana Pantelimon; rubber sole and rubber-coated cloth for Soviet-type light boots; accessories and rubber packings for artillery pieces; solid rubber tires for guns and heavy vehicles; and various fittings and parts for the Margineca armaments factory at Plopieni (Prahova).
 - b. The Rubber Center of the Ministry of Light Industry receives all kinds of technical articles not ordered directly by any enterprise, sanitary articles, and galoshes and rubber soles for local consumption.
 - c. Various national heavy and light industry enterprises, principally Rumanian Railways, receive packings, rubber fittings, rubber fabrics, tubes, and various rubber or vulcanite sets of fittings.
 - d. The Ministry of Foreign Trade receives tubes for refrigerators, rubber boots, and white rubber crepe soles. Three hundred pairs of the latter are produced daily.
6. The factory has its own power station, steam boilers, steam turbines, and diesel motors. Mazut and diesel oil are used as fuel.
7. Equipment is of German (Krupp) or Czech make, is at least 15 to 20 years old, and is in bad condition. Some new equipment has been ordered, but the Ministry decided that it is to be taken to the Mira factory, as the Uzinele Chimice is to be dismantled in the future. The equipment includes: eight large rubber rolling machines linked in fours so that if one machine breaks down, all four come to a standstill; two large Calander rollers for rubber mats and rubberized cloth; fifteen hydraulic presses, each of which has twelve plates; four rubberizing machines for rubberized cloth; three vulcanizing vats, each for 1,000 pair of shoes; one special press for transmission belts; and six extrusion machines for rubber tubes, only three of which are usable.

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25X1

- 3 -

8. The factory is guarded by 30 armed and uniformed watchmen who work in three shifts. There are no antiaircraft or other military defense measures.
9. The following rubber factories are known:
 - a. The Mira Rubber Works, located near Jilava on the Giurgiu road, was formerly owned by the Feinsilber Brothers and was nationalized in 1948. These works are to be developed into a giant rubber works with which the Uzinele Chimice Romane will be amalgamated. Five new machines, ordered from Czechoslovakia and Hungary for the Uzinele Chimice Romane, have been installed at the Mira Works. A special railroad siding leads to the factory. There are to be 1,500 workers at the factory until 1955, at which time the number is to be increased to 4,000 or even 5,000. In 1951, production consisted of about one ton of rubber tubing per day.
 - b. The Banloc Factory at Baicoiu is the only factory producing tires and tubes from synthetic rubber. Products are of inferior quality, because the factory has been lacking sufficient raw materials since 1951.
 - c. At the beginning of 1951, construction of a new, large Sovrom synthetic rubber factory was begun at Medias. It will use hydrocarbon obtained from the combustion of methane gas. The factory was not in operation at the end of 1951.
 - d. The rubber factory at Stalin (Brasov) is smaller than the Uzinele Chimice Romane and has fewer machines which are more modern and in better condition. It produces some miscellaneous items in addition to bicycle tires and tubes.
 - e. The Rubber Factory at Timisoara produces rubber bands and dipped rubber goods, such as gloves and preservatives. Its daily production is 500 kgs.
 - f. The Quadrat, formerly the Markovits Factory, is located at Bucharest, Soseaua Stefan Cel Mare. It produces from 700 to 800 kgs. of rubber footwear daily.

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